

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION FAQ: What is Category 1-A and Category 1?

The Arizona Board of Osteopathic Examiners in Medicine and Surgery does not approve CME. We accept various categories of CME that are approved by AOA or AMA.

The information in this FAQ was obtained from the AOA and AMA CME Guides. For more detailed information about CME, visit the AOA (osteopathic.org) and the AMA (ama-assn.org) websites.

You must complete twenty (20) hours of CME per year. Please note as a D.O. regardless of your specialty or board certification and state in which you reside, you must complete a minimum of twelve (12) hours classified by AOA as Category 1-A CME per year while holding an active Arizona license. For more information regarding license renewal requirements, see the License Renewal & CME FAQ at www.azdo.gov.

1. WHAT IS AOA CATEGORY 1-A?

Answer: Continuing medical education activities sponsored by an AOA accredited Category 1 CME sponsor and are limited to the following.

- Formal Osteopathic CME: formal, face-to-face programs by an AOA accredited sponsor
- **Documentation:** AOA CME Activity Report which states licensee's name, the CME activity name, the date it was completed, number of Category 1-A hours granted and name of the AOA accredited sponsor; OR participation certificate which states this same information.
- CME on the Internet: real-time, live interactive conferencing CME on the Internet
- **Documentation:** AOA CME Activity Report which states licensee's name, title of CME activity, date it was completed, number of Category 1-A hours granted and name of the AOA accredited sponsor; OR copy of AOA approval letter AND copy of submission to AOA for credit sent by sponsor of the program that includes the category and number of CME credits requested up to a maximum nine (9) 1-A credits per AOA 3-year CME cycle.
- Osteopathic Medical Teaching / Grand Rounds / Faculty Development Programs
- **Documentation:** Copy of AOA approval letter AND copy of submission for credit sent by CME Department of AOA accredited College of Osteopathic Medicine or sponsoring hospital that submitted the hours / faculty names.
- Standardized Federal Aviation Courses / Federal Programs
- **Documentation:** Certificate of completion of FAA "Aviation Medicine" course or US Armed Services "Flight Surgeon Primary Course" OR certifications of completion of formal, face-to-face courses AND documentation that physician was on active duty or employed by a uniformed service during the time the course was completed.
- Judging Osteopathic Clinical Case Presentations and Research Poster Presentations
- **Documentation:** Certificate / letter from AOA sponsor of hours awarded for this activity including name of sponsor and formal CME function at which judging occurred up to a maximum of ten (10) 1-A credits per AOA 3-year CME cycle.

- Standardized Life Support Classes (ALS)
- **Documentation:** Certificate of completion. Refer to the CME Guide at the American Osteopathic Association website (www.osteopathic.org) for the eligible course names and hours of credit awarded for each up to a maximum eight (8) 1-A credits per AOA 3-year CME cycle.

2. WHAT IS CATEGORY 1?

Answer: Continuing medical education activities sponsored by an accredited AMA or ACCME provider and certified by the accredited provider as AMA PRA Category 1 credit.

- CME activities including face-to-face and online courses by an accredited AMA sponsor
- **Documentation:** The participation certificate states the licensee's name, the CME activity name, the date it was completed, the number of Category 1 hours granted and the name of the AMA accredited sponsor.

3. I'M STILL IN POSTGRADUATE TRAINING. DO I NEED TO COMPLETE CME?

Answer: Yes, unless this is your first year of licensure. If you were registered in an AOA or ACGME postgraduate training program during your first year of Arizona licensure, you may substitute that PGT for twenty (20) CME hours for your first renewal only. For your next renewal, you will be required to complete twenty (20) CME hours per year, twelve (12) must be AOA Category 1-A CME even if you continue in PGT for several more years.

- Postgraduate Training (PGT) substitutes for CME for first year of licensure only.
- **Documentation:** If your license application was approved between Jan 2 and July 1 of the current year, you will need to submit a letter from the Director of Medical Education or a copy of your certificate of completion for the approved postgraduate training or preceptorship. If your license application was approved after July 1 of the current year, we have documentation of your postgraduate training in your license file.